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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Mark Ashby et al  
SERIAL NO.: 09/859,682  
FILING DATE: May 18, 2001  
TITLE: DEPTH AND PUNCTURE CONTROL FOR SYSTEM FOR  
HEMOSTASIS OF BLOOD VESSEL  
EXAMINER: Izaguirre, Ismael  
ART UNIT: 3765

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on the date printed below:

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Date: May 11, 2004

Name:

Ruth Rodriguez

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated February 12, 2004.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 13 of this paper.

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700